

:12-:28

**Cpl Joshua DeFour, Reporting:** “The Afghanistan Exploitation Unit, or “ACME,” investigates evidence from the frontlines using cutting edge technology. Their techniques are similar to the scripted crime scene investigators found on television—except this science is real. ”

:35-:43

**Cpl Joshua DeFour, Reporting:** “As soon as the evidence arrives from the battlefield, it is inventoried and assigned to one of ACME’s three labs: fingerprints, chemistry, or DNA forensics. ”

:44-:46

**Tommy [background] :** “Here to pick up case 3000.”

:53-1:11

**Tommy, Latent Print Specialist:** “This particular case involved plastic bags, some tape, and we’re processing those accordingly. Once those finish fuming in the Fuming Chamber, then they can be looked at to see if there’s any prints. If there’s not, then we’ll apply a fluorescent chemical and then we’ll look at it under a laser to view and photograph those prints.

1:14- 1:26

**Tommy, Latent Print Specialist:** “So now the examiner is examining the print under the laser light to see if anything’s developed. The orange filters act as a barrier filter; one, to protect your eyes, but it allows you to cut out the background and just see the fluorescents.”

1:28-1:45

**Tommy, Latent Print Specialist:** “Now that he’s found a print he’ll focus on one individual print at a time, snap that photograph, and that photograph can either be used for manual comparisons to a known subject that our submitter has provided...or we can search that print in our database to see if that person has already been enrolled somewhere.”

1:48-2:08

**Tommy, Latent Print Specialist:** “Every person we can identify by latent prints takes an enemy combatant off the battlefield. And that’s one less person shooting at our troops, trying to build pressure plates to blow them up. And every person we can take off the battlefield this way, is one less person they have to worry about on the ground.”

2:09-2:16

**Cpl Joshua DeFour, Reporting:** “After the evidence is scanned for fingerprints, any materials or elements left from the crime scene are brought to the chemists for further analysis.”

2:16-2:34

**Cynthia, Chemist:** “So one of the first things that I like to do on a sample—it’s called a “huff test.” And it tells me if the sample is water soluble. Do you see that bright guy there? I’m going to huff on him...and you’ll see where he disappeared. And you can see other crystals forming around him, and as soon as it dries out he will re-crystalize.”

2:37-2:55

**Cynthia, Chemist:** “Is it explosive? Did it have the capability to set off an IED? Or was it a drug? If it was not one of those things, what else was it? We knew it blew up, but what else is there that we can alert our guys for? So, it’s a matter of time..to get that information out there to our soldiers.”

2:56-3:07

**Cpl Joshua DeFour, Reporting:** “The final process is, arguably, the most important: DNA forensics.

Matching the exact DNA signatures to a profile database, and revealing the identity of the suspects.”

**3:09-3:30**

**Brian, Forensic DNA Analyst:** “Usually we’ll have swabs that we can try and get the DNA off of. We need to know approximately how much DNA we were actually able to get from the material that we’re working with. We’re then able to make copies, and amplify that DNA. The reason we need so many copies is because, in the end, we’re going to take as many copies as we can, run them through a few more tests and build an overall DNA profile.”

**3:33-3:53**

**Brian, Forensic DNA Analyst:** “My last tour was with a combat support hospital in a uniform position, and I saw the other end of it...the guy’s coming in after they’ve gotten the IED’s and the things like that...and so, to be able to come in now, from this perspective, and be able to help out and try to narrow or stop some a lot of those things so a lot more of those guys can come back...is an amazing thing to be able to do.”

**3:56-4:08**

**Cpl Joshua DeFour, Reporting:** “ACME’s mission is to keep coalition forces aware of the people and materials threatening to harm them. And though the scientists bear no rifle or uniform, the chance to positively affect the battlefield is victory enough.”

**4:09-4:19**

**Tommy, Latent Print Specialist:** “My son was in the Army, he’s a done a year in Iraq and a year here, so every enemy combatant I can take off the battlefield that may be shooting at him, or trying to kill him...gives me GREAT satisfaction.”

**4:21-4:25**

**Cpl Joshua DeFour, Reporting:** “Reporting from Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan, I’m Marine corporal Joshua DeFour.”